### 2017 Legislature Builds on Prekindergarten-K12 Reform Agenda



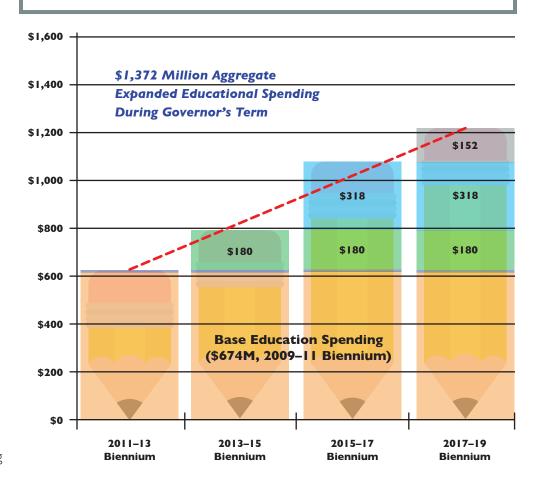
he 2017 Legislature endorsed Gov. Brian Sandoval's aggressive education reform agenda with an additional investment of more than \$152 million to programs that were funded in 2015.

The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) has the unique position to enact the vision of the Governor and Legislature to disseminate funds that incentivize effective programs and execute critical initiatives in service to Nevada's students.

Some of these investments include \$72 million to fund weights for students in poverty and English learners. This specifically added a new weight of \$1,200 per pupil for students who receive free or reduced lunch or are English learners and fall into the bottom quartile of performance. Other additional appropriations included \$30 million to expand Special Education weights, \$4.3 million to expand services for Gifted and Talented Education, \$17 million for Read by Grade Three and \$2.8 million for Career and Technical Education. Building upon reforms recently put into place ensures they will have a real and lasting impact. The Governor also believes that addressing literacy, improving graduation rates and getting more students on a college and career pathway will better serve the needs of Nevada's emerging economy.

On the following pages you will learn more about allocations of funds and specific initiatives that NDE will lead to meet our goal of becoming the fastest improving state in the nation. The chart on this page shows how spending for these categorical programs have increased by \$1.3 billion during the Governor's tenure.

### **Nevada K12 Education Spending (\$M)**





## Literacy and Early Learners Is a Cornerstone of Student Growth

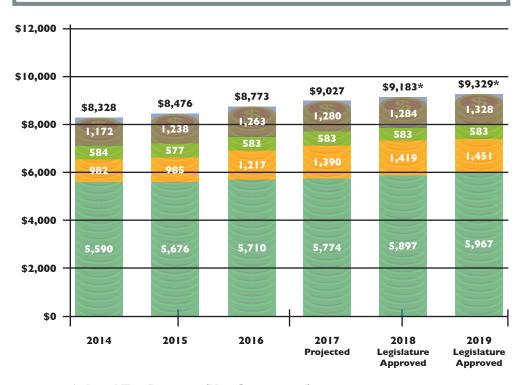
- An increase of \$3.5 million for a total of \$13.9 million for the Preschool Development grant match that aims to double the number of our most vulnerable students being served and provided access to full-day, quality programs and services. Federal dollars received during the biennium total \$25.1 million.
- \$170 million to maintain the funding to provide statewide, voluntary full-day kindergarten.
- An increase of \$17 million for a total of \$44.5 million to maintain the Read by Grade Three initiative over the biennium to support effective activities in improving the reading achievement of children in kindergarten through third grade.

# Make Responsible Investments to Modernize the Nevada Plan

- An increase of \$30 million for a total of \$386 million to support students with disabilities. This includes funding \$3,237 per student. An additional \$2 million contingency fund was maintained for extraordinary special education expenses.
- 5 \$72 million to maintain the state's transition to a student first funding formula. It is anticipated that these funds will serve over 30,000 students at \$1,200 per student each year of the biennium based on poverty or English learner status.
- An increase of \$4.3 million for a total of \$14.6 million to fund and expand services to students qualifying for and served in the Gifted and Talented program.

### Per Pupil Spending Continues to Rise

#### Per Pupil Funding-Actual Statewide Average



- Local Tax Revenue (Not Guaranteed)
- Federal Funding
- State Categorical
- DSA Basic Support ONLY (Guaranteed)

\*For comparability, FY18 & FY19 Categorical includes FDK equivalent. All ratios are based on weighted enrollment, again for comparability purposes.



# Continued Emphasis on Middle Schools and High Schools

- \$20 million to maintain funding the Nevada Ready 21 technology grant program by intentionally infusing technology into students' and teachers' daily experiences.
- An additional \$2.8 million for a total of \$25.1 million to support Career and Technical Education (CTE) and the ongoing alignment of CTE with quality career pathways culminating in credentials of value that are aligned with industry need.
- An additional \$2 million for a total of \$10 million for College and Career Readiness grants for opportunities to participate in advanced coursework, dual enrollment and work-based learning experiences. This program aligns with and provides direct aid to implement the Governor's emphasis on workforce development. NDE will spend between \$500,000 and \$750,000 over the biennium on a work-based learning pilot program.
- SB19 expanded opportunities for students to enroll in dual credit courses. This ensures that there is not an unreasonable limit to the number of dual credit courses in which a student may enroll and requires school district boards to enter into cooperative agreements with higher education to offer these options. NDE will fund approximately \$1 million for dual credit from the funds set aside for College and Career Readiness grants.
- SB241 establishes STEM and STEAM state diploma seals. This program recognizes students who have attained a high level of proficiency in science, technology, engineering, math and the arts.
- 5 \$10 million to maintain lobs for America's Graduates (IAG) funding.
- \$925,450 to maintain access to Advanced Placement courses and the opportunity to earn credit while in high school.

### Investing in Change

- \$9.8 million to maintain the Great Teaching and Leading Fund with the purpose of funding professional development, programs of preparation, peer assistance/review, and leadership training and development for teachers, administrators, and other licensed educational personnel, as well as programs to recruit, select, and retain effective teachers and principals.
- 5 \$22.4 million to maintain the Social Workers in School Program that provides a social worker or other licensed mental health worker in schools throughout the state through the Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment within NDE.
- \$5 million to maintain funding for the Turnaround Schools grant program and expand the use of this funding to include allowing funds to support replication activities, to support a transition period until such time as a school is sustainable at a three-star level, and to allow NDE to use grant funds in a manner consistent with the approved federal plan for school improvement.

# Recruiting and Retaining Effective Teachers and Administrators

- 5 \$5 million to maintain the Teacher Incentive Fund for newly hired teachers to be administered through a districts performance pay and enhanced compensation program for the recruitment and retention of licensed teachers and administrators.
- An additional \$5 million for the hiring and retention of teachers in Title I schools.
- 5 \$5 million to maintain the Teach Nevada Scholarships program to support higher education degree attainment.

Nevada Department

\$5 million to maintain the Teacher Supply Reimbursement program for certain out-ofpocket expenses.

### Continued Emphasis on School Improvement and Reform

- AB469 moved the Clark County reorganization forward. This Act allows for an immediate review of responsibilities, skills and competencies necessary to serve as a principal of a local precinct and consider whether current licensing requirements adequately prepare for that role.
- A onetime allocation of \$20 million in FY2018 to the Opportunity Scholarship, bringing the biennium total to over \$32 million. SB555 authorized the Department of Taxation to approve additional funding against the modified business tax for taxpayers who donate money to the Opportunity Scholarship fund.

## Legislative Focus on Workforce Development

- AB7 allows students to receive Career and College Ready diplomas as well as endorsements or certifications when graduating from high school and to fund a public awareness campaign. The legislature allocated \$2.9 million for this effort.
- AB64 establishes an Alternative Diploma which provides students with disabilities several pathways to obtain a standard high school diploma providing them with access to college and career opportunities that were not available with an adjusted diploma.
- AB482 in the College and Career Education (CTE) grant cleanup bill allows for continuous alignment with Nevada's workforce needs. The State Board of Education now has purview over state CTE grant criteria.
- SB66 creates opportunities for work-based learning, including internships. This removes the limitation on the amount of credit a pupil may earn for successful completion of certain work programs.
- SB516 officially created the Office of Workforce Innovation within the Office of the Governor to align workforce development efforts happening at various entities across the state.

